

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 PRS-01

DODE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /094 W
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O R 122242Z AUG 76
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8634
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3211

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN
SUBJECT: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING AUGUST 12

REF: (A) STATE 199814, (B) USUN 3144, (C) USUN 3124

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: KOREA CORE GROUP MET AT THE BELGIAN
MISSION AUGUST 12 WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. GROUP HEARD
REPORTS FROM CAPITALS IN RESPONSE TO ITS REQUEST FOR
COMMENTS ON TEXTS OF EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM AND DRAFT
RESOLUTION AND AGREEMENT TO CO-SPONSOR A RESOLUTION.
NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS PROPOSED
MINOR WORDING CHANGES IN THE TEXTS WHICH WERE DISCUSSED
AT LENGTH. THE GROUP ALSO HEARD REPORTS OF DEVELOPMENTS
AT THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO, AND DISCUSSED
AT LENGTH THE QUESTION OF PRIORITY AND TIMING OF SUB-
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MISSION OF A RESOLUTION. THE GROUP AGREED TO MEET

AGAIN EARLY MONDAY AFTERNOON AUGUST 16 TO REVIEW THE SITUATION AS IT EVOLVES IN COLOMBO. END SUMMARY.

2. REPORTS OF THEVARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THAT A MAJORITY OF CAPITALS ACCEPTED THE TEXTS AS TRANSMITTED REF C, AND WHILE MOST GOVERNMENTS WERE UNWILLING TO GRANT FREE AUTHORITY FOR DECISION IN NEW YORK, THEY EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS IN PRINCIPLE TO CO-SPONSOR. ALL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP STATED THAT THEIR CAPITALS WERE ALERTED FOR SWIFT DECISIONS WHEN NECESSARY. CANADA HAD RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS. THE NETHERLANDS ACCPETED THE TEXTS AND GAVE AUTHORITY TO CO-SPONSOR "AS SOON AS THE OTHER SIDE INSCRIBES AN ITEM." THE HAGUE GRANTED NO AUTHORITY FOR ACTION UNLESS THE OTHER SIDE ACTS FIRST. BELGIUM EXPRESSED THE NEED TO KNOW A BIT MORE ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS AT COLOMBO AND SIAD THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO DECISION ON CO-SPONSORSHIP OR ON PRIORITY. JAPAN ACCEPTED THE TEXTS. JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT IF USG AND ROKG FEEL A FRIENDLY RESOLUTION SHOULD BE INSCRIBED AT AN EARLY DATE, HIS GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER IT URGENTLY IN TOKYO. HE HAS NO AUTHORITY TO APPROVE CO-SPONSORSHIP OR INSCRIPTION WITHOUT AT LEAST TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH TOKYO. FRG ACCEPTED THE TEXTS AND AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR WITH FINAL AUTHORITY TO ACT AVAILABLE BY TELEPHONE. UK INDICATED SUBSTANTIALLY SAME POSITION AS FRG. COASTA RICA DID NOT SPEAK.

3. NEW ZEALAND SPOKE FORTHRIGHTLY AGAINST SEEKING PRIORITY, PARTICULARLY IF THAT TACTIC WERE ALSO JOINED WITH INTENTION TO GO FOR POSTPONEMENT. NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE MUST SEEK AUTHORITY FOR ANY ACTION FROM WELLINGTON.

4. NEW ZEALAND PROPOSED THREE TEXTUAL CHANGES:
(A) PROPOSED BREAKING THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH IN DRAFT RESOLUTION INTO TWO PARAGRAPHS FOR CLARITY. AFTER EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION, CONSENSUS OF THE GROUP WAS THAT IT WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE TO ADOPT THIS
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SUGGESTION; (B) GROUP AGREED TO REFER FOLLOWING PROPOSED NEW TEXT FOR OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH THREE OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION TO CAPITALS: "3. URGES THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AND THE OTHER PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PERMITTING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY ADOPTING THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT OR BY FINDING A

NEW BASIS TO REPLACE THE EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS;" (C) NEW ZEALAND PROPOSED DROPPING OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 FROM THE DRAFT ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT CONTAINS LITTLE USEFUL SUBSTANCE. THE GROUP AFTER DISCUSSION DECIDED THAT IT SHOULD BE RETAINED.

5. MUCH OF THE TEXTUAL DISCUSSION TURNED AROUND DISCOMFORT OF NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES WITH THE PHRASE "NEW LEGAL STRUCTURE." WE ELABORATED OUR REQUIREMENT FOR WORDING THAT WOULD INDICATE THAT SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE NEEDED IF THE PRESENT ARMISTICE SYSTEM IS TO BE REPLACED. THE GROUP PERSISTED, HOWEVER, IN FEELING THAT "STRUCTURE" CARRIES A VAGUE INTIMIDATING IMPRESSION. THIS PERTAINS TO SUGGESTED CHANGE ABOVE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH THREE OF THE RESOLUTION. SIMILARLY WE AGREED TO CONSIDER SUBSTITUTION OF THE WORD "ARRANGEMENTS" FOR "STRUCTURE" IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH FOUR OF THE EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM. THAT SENTENCE WOULD THEREFORE READ "...TO SEEK AGREED NEW LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ARMISTICE DURING..." ALL MEMBERS OF GROUP PREFERRED THIS NEW WORDING. WE THINK IT MEETS OUR NEED TO EMPHASIZE PRECISION AND CONSEQUENTLY RECOMMEND ITS APPROVAL. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF THESE PROPOSED CHANGES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 3211

6 THE GROUP HAD NO NEW REPORT FROM COLOMBO. REPRESENTATIVES WITH WHOM WE TALKED HAD NOT HEARD REPORT OF KIM IL-SONG'S APPARENT HESITATION ON ATTENDING NAC. THE CANADIANS REPORTED FROM COLOMBO THAT KIM IS STILL EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMIT. THEY ALSO HAVE RECEIVED A REPORT THAT THE NORTH KOREANS MAY CALL FOR A CONFERENCE OF THE TWO KOREAS AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS AND BASES. THE FRG REPORTED NORTH KOREAN INTEREST IN BEING SEATED IN AN EXPANDED NAC. THE DUTCH HAD NO INTELLIGENCE FROM COLOMBO BUT REPORTED CONCERN IN THE HAGUE THAT THE CORE GROUP MEMBERS MAY BE WEIGHING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE TOO HEAVILY IN RELATION TO OUR DECISION ON PRIORITY. HE ASKED IF A RADICAL OUTCOME OF THE NAC WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR A US DECISION TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY TO CONFIDENTIAL

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SEEK PRIORITY. WE RESPONDED THAT IN OUR VIEW EVIDENCE FROM DPRK PLUS LIKELY FURTHER EVIDENCE FROM FONMINS IN COLOMBO WOULD BE SUFFICIENT PUBLIC INDICATION OF OTHER SIDE'S INTENTIONS THAT OUR SIDE COULD NOT BE ACCUSED OF SEEKING CONFRONTATION IF WE MOVED FOR PRIORITY. WE THEREFORE TENDING TO SEE LESS REASON FOR NOT SEEKING PRIORITY.

7. ROK REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT AN EARLY MOVE FOR PRIORITY. JAPAN INDICATED THAT GOJ WOULD PROBABLY FOLLOW ROK AND US LEAD. UK AGREES WITH OUR PRESENT POSITION IN PRINCIPLE, AS DOES THE FRG. CANADA, NEW ZEALAND AND BELGIUM REMAIN UNCERTAIN ABOUT WHETHER THEY WOULD AGREE TO CO-SPONSOR IN A MOVE TO SEEK PRIORITY NEXT WEEK. COSTA RICA HAS NOT EXPRESSED ANY CLEAR POSITION.

8. THE GROUP AGREED TO MEET AGAIN EARLY MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 16, TO REVIEW WHATEVER INFORMATION WE ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NON-ALIGNED MINISTERIAL MEETING. IF DEVELOPMENTS BEFORE THAT TIME WERE TO MAKE IT SEEM TO THE ROK'S

AND US ADVISABLE TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY FOR PRIORITY,
WE ESTIMATE THAT THE BRITISH, THE GERMANS AND
PROBABLY THE JAPANESE (AND OF COURSE THE KOREANS)
WOULD MOVE WITH US. THE OTHERS WOULD PROBABLY AT
BEST REQUIRE MORE TIME FOR A DECISION AND MIGHT
RESIST A MOVE FOR PRIORITY IN ANY EVENT.

9. IF THE DEPARTMENT WISHES TO HAVE UNANIMOUS
SPONSORSHIP FOR A QUICK ACTION NEXT WEEK BY THE
CORE GROUP, WE BELIEVE THE CASE MUST BE ARGUED IN
THE RELEVANT CAPITALS. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE
DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT REPRESENTATIONS IN BRUSSELS,
THE HAGUE, OTTAWA, SAN JOSE AND WELLINGTON AND
POSSIBLY IN LONDON AND BONN AS WELL TO BE SURE.
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